

## CLAIMS

- 1     1.     A combination cleaning and plunging tool comprising:  
2     a handle having a first end and a second end;  
3     a resilient plunger coupled to the first end of the handle, the plunger having a concave  
4     portion with an opening facing generally away from the second end of the handle,  
5     the plunger further having at least an extended position and a retracted position;  
6     a brush coupled to at least one of the first end of the handle and to the plunger; and  
7     wherein at least a majority of the brush is within the concave portion of the plunger when  
8     the plunger is in its extended position, and at least a portion of the brush is  
9     exposed from the concave portion of the plunger when the plunger is in its  
10    retracted position.
- 1     2.     The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 1, wherein the brush  
2     comprises a first brush portion coupled to an inside surface of the plunger in its  
3     extended position.
- 1     3.     The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 2, wherein the brush  
2     comprises a second brush portion coupled to the first end of the handle and  
3     extending axially therefrom within the plunger in its extended position.
- 1     4.     The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 2, wherein the first brush  
2     portion coupled to the inside surface of the plunger comprises a plurality of brush  
3     bristles and a majority of the brush bristles are exposed from the concave portion  
4     of the plunger when the plunger is in its retracted position.
- 1     5.     The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 1, wherein the brush  
2     comprises an elongated brush portion coupled to the first end of the handle and  
3     extending axially therefrom within the plunger in its extended position.

- 1     6.     The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 1, further comprising a  
2           cross-member extending in at least one radial direction from the handle at or near  
3           the second end of the handle.
- 1     7.     The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 6, wherein the cross-  
2           member extending in a radial direction from the handle comprises a rotatable  
3           knob thereon, the handle further comprising a sleeve rotatably mounted on the  
4           handle such that when a user grasps the rotatable sleeve with one hand and the  
5           cross-member knob with the other hand, the user can rotate the knob to cause the  
6           handle to rotate within the sleeve.
- 1     8.     The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 1, further comprising a  
2           retractor coupled to the plunger and adjustably coupled to the handle, the retractor  
3           moveable between a first position in which the retractor moves the plunger into its  
4           extended position, and a second position in which the retractor moves the plunger  
5           into its retracted position.
- 1     9.     The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 8, wherein the retractor is  
2           slidably mounted on the handle such that movement of the retractor from its first  
3           position to its second position moves the retractor transversely along the handle in  
4           the direction of the second end of the handle.
- 1     10.    The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 9, the retractor further  
2           comprising a grip portion having an inner surface formed of a friction material  
3           such that when the grip portion is squeezed, the friction surface presses against  
4           the handle to restrict transverse movement of the handle within the retractor grip.
- 1     11.    The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 10, the retractor further  
2           comprising a sleeve rotatably mounted on the handle such that the handle can  
3           rotate within the sleeve.

1 12. The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 1, the retractor further  
2 comprising a substantially cone-shaped member extending between the retractor  
3 and a circumferential surface of the plunger, wherein movement of the retractor  
4 from its first position to its second position draws the circumferential surface of  
5 the plunger toward the handle resulting in the plunger being placed in its retracted  
6 position with the portion of the brush exposed.

1 13. The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 1, wherein the brush is a  
2 toilet brush and the plunger is a toilet plunger.

1 14. A combination cleaning and plunging tool comprising:  
2 a handle having a first end and a second end;  
3 a resilient toilet plunger coupled to the first end of the handle, the toilet plunger having a  
4 concave portion with an opening facing generally away from the second end of  
5 the handle, the toilet plunger further having at least an extended position and a  
6 retracted position;  
7 a toilet brush coupled to at least one of the first end of the handle and to the toilet  
8 plunger; and  
9 a retractor coupled to the toilet plunger and adjustably coupled to the handle, the retractor  
10 moveable between a first position in which the retractor moves the toilet plunger  
11 into its extended position, and a second position in which the retractor moves the  
12 toilet plunger into its retracted position;  
13 wherein at least a majority of the toilet brush is within the concave portion of the toilet  
14 plunger when the toilet plunger is in its extended position, and at least a portion of  
15 the toilet brush is exposed from the concave portion of the toilet plunger when the  
16 toilet plunger is in its retracted position.

- 1 15. The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 14, wherein the brush  
2 comprises a first brush portion coupled to an inside surface of the toilet plunger in  
3 its extended position.
- 1 16. The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 15, wherein the brush  
2 comprises a second brush portion coupled to the first end of the handle and  
3 extending axially therefrom within the plunger in its extended position.
- 1 17. The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 14, further comprising a  
2 cross-member extending in at least one radial direction from the handle at or near  
3 the second end of the handle.
- 1 18. The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 17, wherein the cross-  
2 member extending in a radial direction from the handle comprises a rotatable  
3 knob thereon, the handle further comprising a sleeve rotatably mounted on the  
4 handle such that when a user grasps the rotatable sleeve with one hand and the  
5 cross-member knob with the other hand, the user can rotate the knob to cause the  
6 handle to rotate within the sleeve.
- 1 19. The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 14, wherein the retractor is  
2 slidably mounted on the handle such that movement of the retractor from its first  
3 position to its second position moves the retractor transversely along the handle in  
4 the direction of the second end of the handle.
- 1 20. The combination cleaning and plunging tool of claim 14, the retractor further  
2 comprising a sleeve rotatably mounted on the handle such that the handle can  
3 rotate within the sleeve.

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